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[Bunduki] in February last. If Magera Mafupi's letter came to hand, then the goods would be sent before the present letter can reach you. I have more fear of the want of shoes than anything else. If you have any tracing paper I should like some; I lost a good deal in fording a river; some pencils and ink powder, if you can spare them, and an awl, and stick of sealing wax. I am going to Ujiji in two days, and think that I shall be able to send letters thence to Zanzibar sooner than my friends can reach it by Bagamoyo.

"Moero is one of a chain of lakes connected by a river having different names. When we got there I thought it well to look at Cazembe, of which the Portuguese have written much; but all the geographical information is contained in letters I have written, which I mean to send from Ujiji, and have no heart to 'repeat myself.'

"Affectionately yours,

"DAVID LIVINGSTONE."

The PRESIDENT said the letter added little to what had already been communicated to the public. Livingstone announced his intention, positively, to come out of Africa by Zanzibar. In his letters to Dr. Kirk he spoke of his good health, and in other letters to Dr. Seward, which were of a private nature, he also spoke of his good health, and of the difficulties he had overcome. All these details would be hereafter communicated to the Society, when we had received the despatches which Livingstone had prepared, and which would come across from Ujiji to Zanzibar.

Mr. Markham next read a letter from Mr. G. S. W. HAYWARD, who is now travelling, on behalf of the Society, in the countries near the North-Western frontiers of India :—

"SIR,

"Murree, Punjab, 15th August, 1868.

"I have much pleasure in informing you of my arrival here on my way to Central Asia: it has been my endeavour to be as expeditious as possible, and by travelling up country via Central India, instead of the usual route up the River Indus, have saved much time.

"According to the wishes expressed in Sir H. Rawlinson's Memorandum for my guidance, it was my intention to have endeavoured to penetrate into Badakshan from Peshawur, but having been seriously warned by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab that, 'in attempting to proceed by this route, you will not only endanger your own life, but be likely to compromise the British Government,' I have abandoned the idea of going from Peshawur, and am now about starting for Cashmere, and thence to Yarkand without delay. This being the safer route under the present circumstances, by proceeding by it I hope eventually to be able to accomplish successfully the objects in view. I am convinced that there is little danger in Yarkand itself, to any one acting with ordinary precaution, even in the event of being discovered to be an Englishman. The greater difficulty will be in returning from Yarkand by the Pamir Steppe, exploring the Steppe and Badakshan, and coming through the difficult country lying between the Hindu Kush and the north-west frontier. But, as by the time I arrive at Yarkand I ought to be quite 'au fait' at keeping up the disguise I shall assume, I feel very confident of success.

"I beg to enclose a description of a route from Jellalabad to Turkestan, via Chitral and Badakshan, which is from information supplied to the Punjab Government by a Yarkandi merchant, and which may not be known to the Geographical Society. I have also made a rough sketch-map, showing the country and route alluded to, and hope eventually to be able to prove the correctness, or otherwise, of the route given, from personal observation. Should it be in my power during my travels to forward any reports, plans, or informa-

tion, I will not fail to do so; but I fear that the great distance such communications will have to be sent before they can reach the frontier will effectually hinder my being able to do so; if even it would be advisable to send any, from the fact of the necessity of being in disguise. Hoping I may be able to succeed in returning with much valuable information, scientific and geographical,

“I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient Servant,

“GEORGE S. W. HAYWARD.”

“To the President,
Royal Geographical Society.”

The following Paper was then read:—

On Trade Routes between Turkestan and India. By Major-General
Sir H. C. RAWLINSON, K.C.B., &c.

SIR HENRY RAWLINSON stated that on more occasions than one he had had the honour of drawing the attention of the Geographical Society to the fact that one of the most valuable results—if not the most valuable result—of all our researches and explorations had been the opening up of new routes for the trade and commerce of nations; and when he thus insisted on the great advantages to commerce, he did not merely allude to it as a means of enriching individual merchants and manufacturers; he looked at it from a far higher point of view. He believed commerce between nations to be a most important instrument in extending civilisation, in promoting peace, and in raising the social condition of the people who engage in it. When two countries stand in the relationship of producer and consumer, their material interests become so identified, that it is almost impossible they should go to war. At any rate, if commercial intercourse be not an absolute antidote to the passion for war, it greatly lessened the danger of collision, and it was in that point of view, —in order to establish a community of interests and thus to consolidate friendly relations,—that he thought it so very desirable to encourage and promote trade between our Indian empire and the nations of Central Asia.

He had put these observations together in order to explain to the meeting the grounds upon which he thought the subject worthy the consideration of the Royal Geographical Society. On two previous occasions he had explained these routes in detail. In the one he had given an exposition of the route of the Pundit from Lhasa to Lake Manasarowar, and in the other had endeavoured to illustrate the journey of Mr. Johnson from Leh to Khotan, and to point out the vast importance of that route. On the present occasion he would first give a few extracts from a Report on the trade routes between Thibet and Central Asia, written by Mr. Forsyth, the Government